

(b) to (d). The IBM Review Committee recommended in 1979 opening of regional offices at Bhubaneswar, Ahmedabad and a Zonal Office at Calcutta. Due to financial constraints, Govt. is not in a position as of present to set up new Regional Office of IBM, in any State including Karnataka.

Additional Channels for Paging Services

3452. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is presently faced the demand for additional frequency channels from operators of paging services;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to introduce any new paging code to reduce the pressure on frequency demand; and

(c) if so, the broad features thereof and the extent to which it will increase the number of subscribers within existing frequencies?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The use of high speed protocols like ERMES & FLEX is under consideration.

(c) Brief features of proposed high speed protocols are:

(i) ERMES:

- (1) European standard
- (2) Frequency band of operation: 169.4—169.8MHz
- (3) Channel spacing: 25 KHz
- (4) Speed of operation: 6.25 Kbps
- (5) If only Numeric Subscribers: Capacity 3,81,000.
- (6) If only Alpha Numeric Subscribers: Capacity 1,11,000

(ii) FLEX

- (1) Proprietary of Motorola, U.S.A.
- (2) Frequency band of operation: 929.0—932.0 MHz: 138.0—174.0 HMHz
- (3) Channel spacing : 25 KHz
- (4) Speed of operation: 1.6, 3.2 & 6.4 Kbps
- (5) If only Numeric subscribers: capacity: 6,35,000 at 6.4 kbps.
- (6) If only Alpha Numeric subscribers: capacity 1,24,000 at 6.4 Kbps.

The suppliers of High Speed Protocols claim that a figure of 3 to 4 times capacity (No. of subscribers) increase over the existing system of POCsAG.

Telecom Tenders in Calcutta

3453. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of companies who received the telecom tender in Calcutta Metropolitan jurisdiction during 1995-96;

(b) whether any objection has been raised by the State of West Bengal; and

(c) whether Chief Minister of the State attended the opening function of Modi Group Cellular Services launching commercial Cellular Mobile Service in Calcutta?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) The licences to operate Cellular Mobile Telephone Service in Calcutta Metro City were awarded to M/s. Modi Telstra and M/s. Usha Martin Telecom in November, 1994.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. The Chief Minister of West Bengal did not attend the opening function of Modi Group Cellular Services launching commercial Cellular Mobile Service in Calcutta on 23rd August, 1995. However, it is reported by M/s. Modi Telstra Pvt. Ltd. that Hon'ble Chief Minister was present during the launch of trial run of the network which was conducted on 31st July, 1995.

Old Age Homes

3454. SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state the number of old persons kept in the Old Age Homes of Delhi and the facilities being provided to them?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : The number of Sr. citizens kept in the three Sr. Citizens Homes, run by the Department of Social Welfare, Government of NCT of Delhi are as under:—

Home for Old & Infirm Persons	:	37
Dr. Hedgevar Sr. Citizens Home, Kalkaji	:	10
Deen Dayal Upadhyay Sadan Green Park	:	11